

ATTORNEYS PRESS LUSITANIA CLAIMS

Committee Named to Urge
State Department Action
Against Germany.

GUARANTEES ARE SOUGHT

Sale of Enemy Ships or Funds
Held as Alien Property
Suggested.

Attorneys from many parts of the country, representing claimants of the Lusitania disaster, met yesterday at 120 Broadway on the sixth anniversary of the sinking, and appointed a committee to appeal to the State Department and the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations to speed adjustment of the claims against Germany. The passage of the peace resolution by the Senate was discussed at length.

It was decided to make an urgent request that compensation be awarded to each claimant according to merit, and that full reparation be had for all consequential damages sustained, including "pain, suffering and loss of earnings" in each case. The acceptance by the United States of a blanket settlement of the claims would be fought bitterly, it was announced. Insistence would be made on prompt payment, and not by the long terms of other reparation agreements with Germany, the contention being made that the nature of the claims by the Lusitania survivors was different from those otherwise involved in the war with Germany.

The suggestion was made that the Government should devise some way of guaranteeing immediate satisfaction of the claims, either out of the proceeds of the sales of enemy ships in the possession of the Government or the funds in possession of the Alien Property Custodian. In view of the importance which the Lusitania played in America's entrance into the war, the attorneys believed that there would be public support generally of an early settlement of the claims.

George Whitefield Betts, Jr., was made chairman of the committee, which includes William M. K. Olcott, W. W. Davies, Louisville; George L. Ellsworth, Boston; Sydney Rossman, James R. Garrett, Warren Van Slyke, Carl W. Schaefer, Cleveland, and Raymond Ballentine. The claims represented by the attorneys amounted to several million dollars.

HONOR TO AMERICAN WOMEN.

A movement to erect at Washington a statue dedicated to American womanhood for its sacrifices during the war will be launched at the Hotel Astor today by the Great Mother Memorial Association of the United States. Jan Van Dyke, sculptor, has drafted a design for the proposed memorial. The association is composed of men, with Austin B. Fletcher as treasurer and Frederick W. M. Heller of the Bush Terminal Company, executive secretary.

DAY TO RECRUIT NURSES.

The birthday anniversary of Florence Nightingale occurs next Thursday, and the American Red Cross is cooperating with Public Health Service hospitals to make the occasion a recruiting day for nurses. There is a shortage of trained nurses the country over, and hospital work is being hampered. In the sixty-one Public Health Service hospitals, where disabled veterans of the world war are receiving treatment, vaudeville and other entertainment will be provided.

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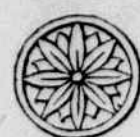
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